

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 EB-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 /088 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8983

INFO CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, MARR, ECON, RP

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR'S FAREWELL STATEMENT

1. THE FOLLOWS TEXT OF AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN'S FAREWELL STATEMENT WHICH WAS RELEASED TO THE PRESS AFTERNOON OF APRIL 26. ALL MAJOR DAILIES FRONT-PAGED STORY APRIL 27. BUSINESS DAY CARRIED COMPLETE TEXT OF STATEMENT. BULLETIN TODAY, DAILY EXPRESS AND TIMES JOURNAL CARRIED SUBSTANTIAL PORTIONS OF TEXT, ALL THREE STORIES LEADING WITH THE QUOTE ECONOMIC MIRACLE UNQUOTE THEME. ANY LOCAL COMMENTARY (NONE HAS APPEARED YET) WILL BE SENT BY SEPTTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

"AS WE LEAVE THE PHILIPPINES MY FAMILY AND I WISH TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE MADE OUR STAY HERE SUCH A PLEASANT ONE. THE PAST FOUR YEARS HAVE BEEN INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE FOR ALL OF US.

"THE PHILIPPINES IS IN A PERIOD OF TRANSITION. ITS GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS ARE UNDERGOING CHANGE. ITS INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS ARE EXPANDING AND BECOMING

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MORE VARIED AND COMPLEX. BUT, ABOVE ALL, ITS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE IS ON THE BRINK OF SIGNIFICANT TRANSFORMATION.

"I HAVE GREAST CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF THE PHILIPPINES. NOT ONLY THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THIS BOUNTIFULLY ENDOWED COUNTRY, BUT ABOVE ALL ITS HUMAN RESOURCES GIVE EVERY

CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM. I FULLY EXPECT THAT THE NEXT "ECONOMIC MIRACLE" IN ASIA WILL TAKE PLACE IN THIS COUNTRY. AND I TRUST THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THAT DEVELOPMENT.

"THE "NORTH-SOUTH" DIALOGUE WHICH IS TAKING PLACE BETWEEN THE INDUSTRIALIZED DEMOCRACIES SUCH AS JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES ON THE ONE HAND, AND LESSER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, SUCH AS THE PHILIPPINES AND THE REST OF ASEAN, ON THE OTHER HAND, WILL CONSUME A FAR GREATER PART OF OUR AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE THAN THE SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS WHICH WERE SO PROMINENT IN THE PAST. THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS AGENDA HAVE OFTEN BEEN CLOUDED BY UNDERSTANDABLE EMOTIONAL FACTORS AND IT HAS BEEN MY EXPERIENCE THAT MUCH OF WHAT WE ATTEMPT TO SAY TO EACH OTHER IN THIS FIELD HAS BEEN SUBJECTIVELY INTERPRESTED IN WAYS THAT LEAD TO MISUNDERSTANDINGS. WE WILL HAVE TO WORK HARDER ON THIS SUBJECT, BECAUSE IT IS MY PROFOUND CONVICTION THAT THE ESSENTIAL INTERESTS OF COUNTRIES SUCH AS THE UNITED STATES AND THOSE WHICH CALL THEMSELVES "THE THIRD WORLD" ARE PARALLEL, ONCE THE FUNDAMENTALS ARE MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD.

"WHEN I CAME HERE IN 1973, I EXPRESSED THE CONVICTION THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD ENTER ON A NEW ERA WHICH WOULD BE CHARACTERIZED BY MUTUAL RESPECT AND DIGNITY. I BELIEVE WE ARE NOW WELL LAUNCHED INTO THAT ERA AND THAT OUR RELATIONS REFLECT THOSE QUALITIES. THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT INSOLVABLE ISSUES BETWEEN US.

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"AT THE SAME TIME, I CAN ONLY EXPRESS REGRET THAT I WAS UNABLE TO ACCOMPLISH THE TWO CONCRETE GOALS I HAD SET FOR MYSELF. THE FIRST WAS A REVISION OF THE 1947 MILITARY BASES AGREEMENT. THE SECOND WAS A SUCCESSOR AGREEMENT TO THE LAUREL-LANGLEY AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC MATTERS. IN RETROSPECT, WE LOST TWO YEARS IN ADDRESSING THESE MATTERS BECAUSE OF WATERGATE PROBLEMS IN WASHINGTON. WHEN WE FINALLY WERE ABLE TO GET TO THEM, OTHER FACTORS INTERVENED WHICH STILL OPERATE TO DELAY THEIR CONCLUSION. I FEEL CONFIDENT, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE NO DIFFERENCES IN PRINCIPLE WHICH WILL PREVENT THEIR SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION.

"CONSEQUENTLY, ALTHOUGH WE LEAVE WITH THE FEELING THAT MY MISSION WAS INCOMPLETE, WE NEVERTHELESS LEAVE WITH THE CONVICTION THAT PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS ARE SOUNDLY BASED AND WILL CONTINUE TO PROSPER. MABUHAY*" END TEXT.
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